

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An oily external composition for skin comprising:

a complex powder including lipophilic base powder and zinc oxide, where the surface of lipophilic base powder is covered with zinc oxide; and

an oil component;

wherein said complex powder is dispersed and swelled in said oil component,

wherein the zeta-potential of said lipophilic base powder is a negative value at pH 7.5,

and

wherein the ~~covering rate of~~ zinc oxide covers from ~~is in the range of~~ 1 to 90% ~~relative to~~ of the total surface area of said lipophilic base powder dispersed in said oil component, and

wherein the lipophilic base powder is one or more selected from the group consisting of silicone resin, silicone rubber, and silicone resin-covered-silicone rubber.

Claims 2-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): The oily external composition for skin according to claim 1 wherein the oil component comprises silicone oil.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The oily external composition for skin according to claim 1 wherein the content of said complex powder is in the range of 1 to 50 % by weight.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The oily external composition for skin according to claim 1 wherein said composition is an emulsion.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method of ~~use of the external composition according to claim 1, the method~~ treating rough skin comprising:

applying the composition of claim 1 to rough skin to thereby promote recovering of said rough skin.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method of ~~use of the external composition according to claim 1, the method~~ treating sensitive skin comprising:

applying the composition of claim 1 to sensitive skin to thereby relieve an abnormal feeling associated with said sensitive skin.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A complex powder comprising a lipophilic base powder and zinc oxide, wherein the surface of said lipophilic base powder is covered with zinc oxide, wherein the zeta-potential of said lipophilic base powder is a negative value at pH 7.5, ~~and the covering rate of wherein zinc oxide is in the range of covers~~ 1 to 90% ~~relative to of~~ the total surface area of said lipophilic base powder when said lipophilic base powder is dispersed and swelled in oil and wherein the lipophilic base powder is one or more selected from the group consisting of silicone resin, silicone rubber, and silicone resin-covered-silicone rubber.